

bry



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/015,419	12/12/2001	Martin Hague Ramsden	EN11348	5722
7590	01/23/2006		EXAMINER	
Motorola, Inc. Law Department 8000 West Sunrise Boulevard - Room 1610 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33322			GRIER, LAURA A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2644	

DATE MAILED: 01/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/015,419	RAMSDEN, MARTIN HAGUE	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Laura A. Grier	2644	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 November 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 10 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 9 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 2 –3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 2, it is unclear what is meant the statement of "... a logic array is coupled between the circuit capable of converting..." or what it's supposed to be coupled between.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swanson, U. S. Patent No. 4164714.

Regarding claim 1 and 4-5, Swanson discloses a polyphase PDM amplifier which comprises an audio source (10), which indicates an audio signal; a modulator (16) – (the modulator includes comparators) that converts an audio signal into a pulse train with a frequency that varies with a frequency of the audio signal (col. 10, lines 64-67 – col. 11, lines 1-3, figures 1, 2) coupled to a combiner (18), which includes amplifiers and reads on an amplification circuit. The enabling and disabling of an amplifier in response to a pulse train having a frequency above a predetermined threshold was well known. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Swanson by implementing a common function of the amplifier for the purpose of ensuring adequate function of the amplifier.

Regarding claim 2, and Swanson discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1). Swanson discloses a logic (figure 7), which indicates a logic array, wherein it is inherent that clock (160/240) is provided with a predetermined frequency as evident by the characteristics and make of logic circuits or means.

Regarding claim 3 and 6, respectively, Swanson discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1 and 4, respectively). Swanson discloses a ripple counter included in a logic means (figure 7), as evident by the characteristics and make of logic circuits or means.

Regarding claim 7, Swanson discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 6). Swanson discloses flip-flop circuits (col. 9, lines 45-68).

Regarding claim 8, Swanson discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 7).

Swanson discloses a load (12), which reads on a loudspeaker.

Claims 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 10 is allowed.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The applicant essentially argues the at prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed invention in respect to the "... a pulse train with a frequency that varies with the frequency of the audio signal...". A new reference of prior art has been applied in the rejection of the claimed invention, which discloses a pulse duration modulator amplifier that teaches converting an audio signal in to pulse trains with a frequency that varies with the frequency of the audio signal.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura A. Grier whose telephone number is (571) 272-7518. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on (571) 272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Laura A Grier
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2644

January 20, 2006